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Save the Date

October 4, 2005

Fall CRT Training

Location: CJJ

**Methodist Family Health
CRT: GCI for Children**

**Lt. Robert Speer, SWAT
Commander**

AR State Police

**Rich Carvell, Chair
Dept of Radio &
Television**

**College of Communications
AR State University**

NOVA and CJJ Kick Off NIMS Project with AR-CRT

Tom Canady, AR-CRT Board Member and Training Chair developed an experiential crisis response training workshop for NOVA using the National Incident Management System [NIMS] model. NIMS is an outgrowth of the National Response Plan adopted after the tragedies of September 11, 2001.

AR-CRT was fortunate to be selected for the pilot project. NOVA looked at the number of seasoned interveners with national and extensive state experience to participate.

AR-CRT members completing the training were: Andy Altom, Rev. Lawson Anderson, Jack Bell, Cyndi Coleman, Lynn Cross, Judge Jodi Raines Dennis, Rev. Steve Farmer, Ruth Fissel, Linda and Dennis Graham, Fr. Jack Harris, Charlene James, Larance Johnson, Jennifer Lang, Gray LeMaster, Karen Lowery, Coralie Maxwell, Leah Mohlke, Sandy Morrison, Andrea Northcut, Ann Patterson, Russ Sherrill,



NOVA Executive Director Jeannette Adkins with Tom Canady and NOVA Deputy Director Cheryl Tyiska

Kendra Simpson, Max Snowden, Carol St. John, Shelton Walker, and Dr. Stan Wilson. Each received a completion of study from NOVA and will receive a IS 700 NIMS certificate from FEMA..

Cheryl Tyiska explained that NIMS and the Incident Command System (ICS) training is critical for responders on the national level, and will benefit responders on the state and local levels as well. NIMS/ICS will help NOVA team with aspects of preparedness, resource management, communications and the use of supporting technologies to move the teams further along in their evo-

lution. It will also help us to communicate more efficiently with our partner voluntary organizations and governmental agencies.

In light of the information that came out of the NIMS/ICS pilot training in Arkansas, NOVA plans to create a National Crisis Response Advisory Committee to look at how NIMS/ICS concepts and principles should guide the National Crisis Response Team's protocols and those of NOVA's state and local teams. Key, however, is the concept of preparedness. As Canady said during the pilot training, paraphrasing an old Indian proverb, "It's OK to call on God for help, but row away from the rocks. NIMS/ICS helps us to know how to use common sense and practicality to get the job done.



31st Annual NOVA Conference Is A Sizzling Hit

The 31st Annual North American Victim Assistance Conference was held in Atlanta, GA. The theme of the conference was *Georgia: On Our Minds, Victims in Our Hearts*. A total of 160 workshops were offered representing 16 major tracks.

Arkansas Victim Assistance Coordinators in attendance were Charlene James, North Little Rock Police Department, Kathleen Kazanovicz, Union County Prosecutor's Office and



NOVA Board Members: Sandra K. Morrison, MS., Vice Chair Dan Levey, AZ, Secretary Ginger Bankston Bailey and Past President Beth Rossman

Ashley Martin, Michelle Glander, Susie Barnes, Susan Grice, Monica Massey and Lisa Sergeant, Pulaski County Prosecutor's Office.

Highlights of the Conference were David Pelzer, New York Times and International best selling author of *A Child Called It*; Erin Gray, Actress, Model and Spokesperson for the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence presentation on "No Longer Silent"; "TV News and Its Coverage of Victims: When the Tragedy Hits Home" by Atlanta news professionals; motivation speaker, Alice Kemp-Dewitt, Weber Bryan Psychiatric Hospital, "Its All In The Way You Look At It" and the theatrical presentation: *A Body in Motion*.

For the first time all state crisis response team coordinators met to share strategies for sustaining state teams

along with providing resources to care for the caregivers. Each state brought denim shirts, polos, t-shirts and other items.

Arkansas's new blue polo was a hit with the coordinators.

State team coordinators are excited about the 2006 Biannual National CRT Conference that will be held in North Little Rock at the Wyndham Hotel. There is a growing need for crisis responders to have a venue to share and refresh. Please save the dates November 10 - 13, 2006 and make plans to attend. AR-CRT hopes that Arkansas will have more participants than any other state team.



Charlene and Robin James after the Silent Auction

From the Chair - Max Snowden

In the last "Responder", I related many of the opportunities AR-CRT members have had to employ their skills as crisis responders. Recently, team members were given another opportunity to broaden their knowledge, skills and, hopefully, their effectiveness in responding to differing levels of crisis. NOVA and CJI recently held a pilot training on the National Information Management System (NIMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS). This training, led by Tom Canady provided essential information on functioning in a crisis environment utilizing the national requirements incorporated in the ICS

model. ICS is a management tool for the command and coordination of a crisis response and provides a nationally recognized means to marshal the efforts of individuals and agencies in working toward the common goal of stabilizing a crisis incident. ICS utilizes concepts and principles shown to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the management of such responses and has been embraced by many agencies and states as the preferred method of managing critical events. Again, Arkansas was fortunate to be at the forefront of this effort by serving as the "pilot" for this training which will be held nationwide in the

coming months. The training will provide the necessary education needed to expand our ability to function within this recognized protocol and assure that Arkansas teams will have a prominent role in the future of crisis response efforts. As the field progresses and evolves, continuing education and training will be the foundation for meeting new challenges and maintaining credibility. Efforts such as this will enable us to uphold our standards of excellence and to continue to meet the highest levels of responsibility, accountability and effectiveness.



Arkansas VOAD Prepares for Hard Work

AR-CRT is an active member of the Arkansas Voluntary Organization Active in Disaster [ARVOAD]. After the recent National VOAD Conference, states were asked to strongly promote the 4 Cs: Communication, cooperation, collaboration and

coordination.

Because of the 4Cs, the Florida VOAD was successful in dealing with the 2004 hurricanes.

Arkansas and many other states are making efforts to re-energize.

Through coordination with other disaster relief non-profits, FEMA, and the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management [ADEM], ARVOAD is working hard to assist with seamless services during the life of disaster relief.



Craighead County CRT Continues Quarterly Crisis Education

Craighead County CRT [CCCRT] offered 6-hours of continuing education at their June meeting. Presentations by Mike Walden, Prosecuting Attorney - Ethics and Confidentiality; Lt. Robert Speer, Arkansas State Police SWAT, Commander - Overview of SWAT Team; and Cpl. Terry Whitley, Hostage Negotiations Team - Overview of Hostage Negotiations were highlights.

After lunch at the Holiday Inn, the team conducted a short business meeting and heard therapist Annette

Teresa Jackson and Sharon Jones catch up during the break



Woodruff and Julia Baldwin discussed the new Health Department's



CCCRT: Back: Keith Baker, Lisa Hogan, Terry Whitley, Rita Lynn Jones, Winona Elrod, Teresa Jackson, Linda Graham, Jack Sample Middle: Betty Stockton, Ann Brown, Louanne Parker, Phyllis Curtis, Ann Bauer, Claudia Davis, Frances Bower Front: Rich Carvell and Bob Andrews

Bioterrorism Crisis Response. The all therapist team is associated with the Arkansas Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

CCCRT is a 50 member multidisciplinary team funded by the Craighead County Quorum Court and other community organizations.

Linda Graham is the Team Coordinator. CCCRT provides outreach within the county and adjoining counties.

Jack Bower, Assistant Coordinator stated that the June training session presented by CCCRT gave members the opportunity to network with other victim advocates [including our 'out of state' team members Louanne Parker and Ann

Bauer]. The four modules that were presented provided training diversity that can rarely be scheduled in a one day session.



Betty Stockton, Rich Carvell and Doug Welborn

Methodist Family Health CRT Assists a Neighbor State

NOVA activated AR-CRT and asked for assistance from a specific crisis team - Methodist Family Health CRT. The deployment request was from an adolescent behavioral hospital from another state. Since MFH-CRT is a behavioral healthcare based team, it was without hesitation that MFH CEO Andy Altom and Hospital Administrator Jennifer Lang promptly replied yes.

According to Dr. Lang, this assignment was important for a facility dealing with a previously traumatic event and it was felt as if both direct care staff and administration benefited from the interventions. In addition, Dr. Lang

stated, "I felt this was not only a helpful intervention for the other agency, but that it was a wonderful learning experience for us in terms of ideas for helping our staff deal with stressors."

Cyndi Coleman, Team Coordinator shared that the team represents multidisciplinary mental health professions - psychiatry, psychology, nursing, counseling, social work, teaching family instructors and victim advocacy. In addition, the MFH Auxiliary Board brings resources to the team in the areas of judiciary, school psychologists, and youth services child advocacy.

In the recent "call-out" MFH-CRT was gratified to assist colleagues in a neighboring states because this is what the NOVA model is about.



MFH-CRT: Back: Linda Graham, Judge Jodi Dennis, Andy Altom, Shelton Walker Middle: David Beall, Dr. Jennifer Lang, Myra Altom, Ruth Fissel Front: John Rodriguez, Cyndi Coleman, Larance Johnson, JoAnn Hollingsworth, Dr. Scott Hogan and Ginger Bankston Bailey

Memory Quilt for Dr. Marlene Young



Dr. Marlene Young was presented with a memory quilt during the Opening Ceremonies of the NOVA Conference.

Dr. Young's 30 year career in victims services is respected around the world.

AR-CRT was honored to present a patch to quilter Cindy Herdt



[Cheryl Tyiska's sister]. The AR-CRT patch is the second patch on the top row. We are proud to be part of this remembrance and appreciate Dr. Young's development of NOVA's Crisis Response Teams. She always puts victims first.

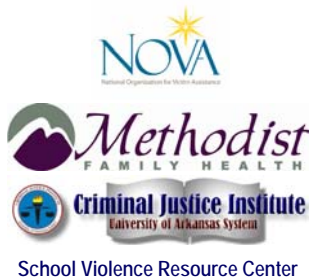


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We're on the Web!
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THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS



The 2nd Biannual National Crisis Response Conference will be held in Little Rock - November 10 - 13, 2006.

Cheryl Tyiska, NOVA, Ginger Bankston Bailey, NOVA Board and AR-CRT, Diane Alexander, Capitol Area CRT and Justice Solutions, Christopher Greenslade, Planning the Globe and Tee Buckner, NOVA will coordinate the national logistics.



Tee Buckner, seated with Christopher Greenslade and Cheryl Tyiska

Larance Johnson will Chair the AR-CRT Local Host Committee. Meetings for this Committee will begin soon.

Mark your calendar and plan on attending. Let's show off our team and our state!

2005 - 2006 Trainings and Conferences

October 4, 2005

AR-CRT Fall Meeting

Location: Criminal Justice Institute

7723 Colonel Glenn Road
Little Rock, Arkansas

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

\$20 - AR-CRT Members

\$30 - Non-Members

Breakfast and Lunch Provided

For additional information:

Ginger Bankston Bailey
AR-CRT Executive Director
arcrt@sbcglobal.net

August 20 - 25, 2006

NOVA Conference

Location: Rosen Centre Hotel
9840 International Drive
Orlando, Florida

1--800-204-7234

Special Rate - \$95

Per Night

For additional information:

Tee Buckner
Training Coordinator

tee@trynova.org

www.try.nova.org

November 10 - 13, 2006

National CRT Conference

Location: Wyndham Hotel

2 Riverfront Place

North Little Rock, Arkansas

1-501-371-9000

Special Rate - \$77

Per Night

Registration fee will be announced soon!

For more information:

Larance Johnson, Chair
Local Host Committee
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